GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:847
ANSWERED ON:13.07.2004
INCLUSION OF DRUGS IN THE LIST OF DRUGS PRICE CONTROL ORDER
Chaliha Shri Kirip

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether medicines for common diseases like diarrhoea, anaemia etc. used by the poor people are not included in the list of Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO);

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for inclusion of these drugs in the DPCO?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (K. RAHMAN KHAN)

(a) to (c) : The 74 bulk drugs specified in the First Schedule of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) and the formulations based thereon are under price control and their prices are fixed/revised by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in accordance with the provisions of the DPCO, 95. These drugs have been identified for inclusion under price control in the DPCO, 95 on the basis of criteria mentioned in the `Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986`, announced in September, 1994. These criteria take into account the extent of usage and the market competition of various drugs.

Prices of non-Scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view the various factors like cost of production, marketing/selling expenses, R&D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. The Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected.